



Austro-Hungarian  
Orders, Medals and Decorations  
Volume III: Decorations  
Part IV



by  
Richard R. Lussier, Dr. P. H.





## Table of Contents

### Volume III Decorations, Part I

Introduction.....	4
Order of Precedence.....	5
Military Merit Cross (1849-1860).....	8
Military Merit Cross (1860-1914).....	14
Military Merit Cross (1914-1918).....	25

### Volume III Decorations, Part II

Red Cross Decorations (1914-1923).....	69
Red Cross Medals (1914-1923).....	96
Bravery Medal (1849-1859).....	109
Bravery Medal (1859-1866).....	114
Bravery Medal (1866-1915).....	118
Bravery Medal (1915-1917).....	122
Bravery Medal (1917-1922).....	132
Officers Bravery Medal (1917-1922).....	143

### Volume III Decorations, Part III

Ecclesiastic Merit Cross (1801-1918) .....	153
Bronze Military Merit Medal (1890-1911) .....	167
Military Merit Medal (1911-1917).....	173
Grand Military Merit Medal (1916-1917).....	187
Military Merit Medal (1917-1920).....	196
Grand Military Merit Medal (1917-1920).....	203
Civil Medal of Merit (1848-1849).....	210
Merit Cross (1850-1922).....	212
War Cross for Civil Merit (1916-1918).....	254
Iron Merit Cross (1916-1922) .....	274
Karl Troop Cross (1916-1920).....	288
Forty Year Faithful Service Decoration (1898).....	295





## Table of Contents

### Volume III Decorations, Part IV

Officers Military Service Decoration, Second Class (1849-1890)).....	305
Officers Military Service Decoration, First Class (1890-1918).....	308
Officers Military Service Decoration, Second Class (1890-1918) .....	317
Officers Military Service Decoration, First Class (1849-1890, Third Class (1890-1918) .....	323
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, First Class (1849-1867)...	331
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, Second Class (1849-1867).	333
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, First Class (1867-1890), Second class (1890-1913).....	335
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, First Class (1867-1869), Second class (1890-1913).....	336
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, Second Class (1867-1869),	338
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, Third Class (1867-1869), Second Class (1869-1890) and First Class (1890-1913).....	340
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, Third Class (1867-1869), Second Class (1869-1890) and First Class (1890-1913) .....	341
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, First Class (1913-1918)..	343
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, Second Class (1913-1918)..	345
Non-Commissioned Officers & Troops Military Service Decoration, Third Class (1913-1918) .	347
Wound Medal (1917-1922).....	350
Home Guard 25 Year Service Medal (1908-1918).....	356
Home Guard 40 Year Service Medal (1908-1918).....	359





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1849-1890**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



**Date Issued:** May 18, 1849 - March 12, 1890

**Reason Issued:** Founded by Franz Joseph on September 19, 1849 to reward officers of the Austrian army and navy who had served fifty years of active service in a faithful and honorable manner.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- The crosses issued to officers in 1849 were the first such awards
- Only the highest grade of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- In the early crosses the eagles are more gothic in design, they have a more lightly feathered body and longer necks and tails.
- Crosses with mother of pearl or tortoise shell reverse were privately made. The mother of pearl or tortoise shell prevented the brass of the cross from discoloring the uniform (Austrian full dress for many officers was white)
- In 1849 the cross for 50 years' service was designated as the second class and the cross for 25 years' service was designated as the First class. Thus the higher the class number the greater the number of years served
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.
- Military officials, doctors and accounting officers were not eligible for this award
- The cross had to be returned upon the death of the recipient

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross, in the Leopold style, with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a ball or loop eye at the top to which is attached an oval ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearly design, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a gold gilt double-headed gothic style imperial eagle. Above the eagle heads is the imperial crown. In the right talon is a sword and in the left an orb. On the breast of the eagle is the Habsburg coat of arms. Below the coat of arms is the chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece. On the upper arm of the cross is a small vertical eye with an elongated suspension ring.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum







**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1849-1890**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet and hole for attaching the obverse eagle, a screw back attachment for attaching the eagle, mother of pearl or tortoise shell finish or an inscription from those who presented it.

Images attributed to Reference Catalogue Orders, medals and decorations of the World, A-D, Borna Barac

**Weight:** 8.5 grams

**Size:** 33-35 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:**

- Gilded bronze or brass with an attached gilt eagle
- Gilded bronze or brass with an attached gilt eagle and a mother of pearl or tortoise shell reverse

**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Obverse (issued from 1849-1867): as described
- Type II Obverse (issued from 1867-1890): as described except the eagle is in the squatter renaissance (Roman) style and the individual eagle heads on the obverse of the cross are crowned. Also the suspension eye is ball shaped and the ring is round and smaller than the type I cross.
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse is sheathed in mother of pearl or tortoise shell
- Type III Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse eagle
- Type IV Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a disk shaped nut for attaching the obverse eagle
- Type V Reverse: As described above except with an inscription on the reverse
- Type VI Reverse: As described above but with a disk attachment for the eagle as in Type IV and the reverse having the same granulated and pearly appearance as the obverse.
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: A loop shaped eye





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1849-1890**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Between 1890 and 1918 approximately 6, 200 second class crosses in their various incarnations were awarded.

**Case:**

- Case Type I: A red case with the Habsburg coat of arms in gold on the lid. The interior is black plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white and has the maker's logo in gilt. Cases of this type were known to be made by Josef Zimmler and Vinc Mayer and Sons
- Case Type II: Decorative cases for engraved presentation awards have been noted. They have been in the regiment's colors with fancy engraving and other ornamentation.
- Fitted cases for multiple decorations have also been seen in which one of the decorations is a service cross.

**Ribbon:**

- Originally 43 mm wide, lemon yellow with two 9.5 mm wide black side strips at a 1.5 mm distance from the edges: later 40 mm wide, golden yellow with 8.5 mm wide black side strips at a 3 mm distance from the edges.
- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Miniatures of this decoration exist.





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )



**Date Issued:** March 12, 1890 - 1918

**Reason Issued:** To reward officers of the Austrian army and navy who had served fifty years of active service in a faithful and honorable manner.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- Only the highest class of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Crosses with diamonds could be issued to persons of special distinction. One such recipient was Generaloberst Freidrich Graf von Beck-Rzikowsky
- Crosses with mother of pearl or tortoise shell reverse were privately made. The mother of pearl or tortoise shell prevented the brass of the cross from discoloring the uniform (Austrian full dress for many officers was white)
- In 1890 it was decided to reverse the title of the military service crosses. Thus the crosses for the most years served became the first class and the other classes for fewer years' service were arrayed below it in descending order.
- Crosses at the end of World War I were made of zinc with bronze centers
- As of April 21, 1913 Engineers and artillery engineers were eligible for this award;
- From November 19, 1917 Military Physicians were eligible for this award
- Officers who served more than forty years received a pension equal to their salary upon retirement.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways; piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.







**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )



**Hallmarks:**

- The 1872-1922 800 fine silver hallmark
- The Friedrich Rothe makers mark
- The Vienna Assay Office mark

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a stylized wedge shaped eye at the top to which the crown suspension is attached. The crown suspension which featured long flowing banderols has a hole drilled through the orb at its top through which passes a ring for attaching the badge to the ribbon and round extension at the bottom for attaching the cross to the crown.

**Obverse:** A cross with a finely granulated surface and raised edges. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm raised smooth edge. The inner portion of the raised edge is of black enamel, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a gilt double-headed imperial eagle. Above the eagle heads is the imperial crown. In the right talon is a sword and in the left an orb. On the breast of the eagle is the Habsburg coat of arms. Below the coat of arms is the chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece. Above the cross is a 20 by 30 mm crown with extended pendulums. The crown is gilt.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain except for a finely beaded design that follows the contour of the cross 2 mm from its edge. It may, however, have a Mother of Pearl or tortoise shell finish, or an inscription from those who presented it. The reverse of the crown is fully detailed.

**Weight:** 18.7 grams

**Size:** The cross is 34-35 mm in diameter with a 20 mm high crown attachment.

**Type of Material:**

- Gilt silver with an attached gilt eagle.
- Gilt bronze with an attached gilt eagle
- Zinc war metal with an attached bronze eagle
- Gilt Silver and mother of pearl or Tortoise shell
- Gilt bronze and mother of pearl or Tortoise shell
- Gilt silver with an attached gilt eagle and diamonds or brilliants



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )



**Type IV Reverse**

Image courtesy of Dorotheum



**Type VII Reverse**

Image courtesy of Dorotheum



**Type V Reverse**

**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Decoration: As described above
- Type II Decoration: As described above except with horizontal banderols
- Type III Decoration: As described above except with diamonds or brilliants
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above with the following exception: The reverse is sheathed in mother of pearl
- Type III Reverse: As described above with the following exception: The reverse is sheathed in tortoise shell
- Type IV Reverse: As described above except with an inscription on the reverse
- Type V Reverse: With a plain reverse
- Type VI Reverse: With a plain reverse with a rivet in the center for attaching the eagle to the obverse
- Type VII Reverse: The reverse of the arms are decorated with a beaded line that follows the contour of the medal and has a finely pebbled area within the beaded design. The reverse center medallion is round and plain.
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: A loop shaped suspension ring
- Type I Eagle: As described above
- Type II Eagle: A roman style eagle with the individual eagle heads on the obverse of the cross crowned
- Type I Crown: As described above
- Type II Crown: A crown with wavy horizontal banderols (some authors have attributed such crosses as navy awards but there is no compelling evidence to suggest that this is true.
- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type II Cross: A zinc cross with a bronze center eagle and crown



**Type II Reverse**

Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )

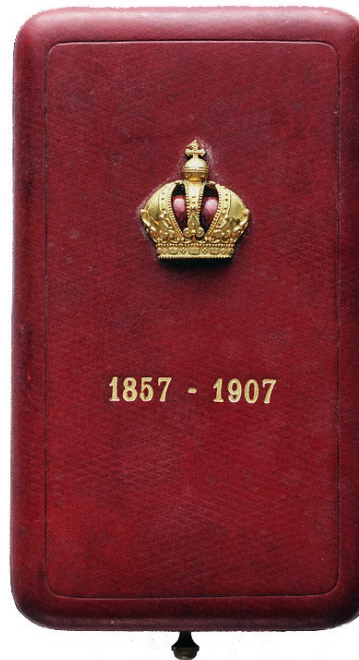


Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Designer:** After 1908 Josef Zimblér

**Manufacturer:**

- Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)
- CF Rothe
- Friedrich Rotha

**Number Issued:**

- Officers Service Cross First Class = 80
- Officers Service Cross First Class with diamonds = 1 is known

**Order of Precedence:** This cross is number 59 after the War Cross for Civil Merit, third class and before the Forty Year Faithful Service Medal

**Case:**

- Case Type I: A red cloth covered case with the Habsburg coat of arms in gold on the lid. The interior is black plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white silk and has the maker's logo in gilt. Cases of this type were known to be made by Josef Zimblér and Vinc Mayer and Sons
- Case Type II: A red leather covered case with the imperial crown applied to the lid and a dedication in gold on the lid. The interior is grey plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white silk and has the maker's logo in gilt. Cases of this type were known to be made by Friedrich Rothe
- Case Type III: A fitted cases for multiple decorations have also been seen in which one of the decorations being a service cross.

**Ribbon:** Yellow-gold with an 8.5 mm black stripe 3 mm from each edge.

- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration sometimes issued with small attachments to indicate specific awards was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Miniatures of this decoration exist.







**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )



**Recipients of the Officers Service Cross First Class**

- Eugen Freiherr Albori: General der Infanterie
- Gustav Ritter Amon von Treuenfest: Oberstleutnant
- Johann Freiherr von Appel: General der Kavallerie
- Karl Graf Auersperg: General der Kavallerie
- Miklos Emanuel Balas de Gyergyo Szent: Fieldmarschalleutnant
- Anton Freiherr von Bechtolsheim: General der Kavallerie
- Freidrich Freiherr von Beck-Rzikowsky, Fieldzeugmeister (with diamonds, October 17, 1906)
- Eduard Ritter von Bergler, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Adam Berzevicy de Berzevicze et Kakas-Lomnitz, General der Kavallerie in der Reserve
- Joseph Ritter von Blaschek, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Artur Freiherr von Bolfros, General der Infanterie
- Wilhelm Freiherr von Bothmer, General der Kavallerie der Reserve
- Michael Broderic, Major der Reserve
- Ernst Chalaupka, Major der Reserve
- Emanuel Cvjeticanin, Generalmajor
- Bernhard Dobler von Friedburg, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Karl Freiherr Drathschmidt von Birkenheim, General der Infanterie der Reserve
- Viktor Graf Dubsky von Trzebomislitz, General der Kavallerie
- Alexander Eberan von Eberhorst, Admiral der Reserve
- Ludwig Fabini, Fieldzeugmeister
- Michael Fadlallah el Hedad, Oberst
- Geza Freiherr Fejervary de Komlos-Keresztes, General der Infanterie
- Ferdinand IV, Archduke, Fieldmarschalleutnant
- Franz Joseph II, Emperor
- Anton Galgotzy, Fieldzeugmeister
- Franz Ritter von Gammel, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Anton Gebaur Edker vin Fulnegg, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Gustav Graf von Geldern-Egmund zu Arcen, Fieldzeugmeister der Reserve
- Heinrich Freiherr Giesel von Gieslingen, Fieldzeugmeister der Reserve
- Benedikt Ritter Gottlicher von Bartenthal, Oberst
- Wilhelm Ritter Gradl, General der Kavallerie





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )



)



**Recipients of the Officers Service Cross First Class**

- Adam Hauber, Major der Reserve
- Alois Hauer, Oberst der Reserve
- Liborius Hausner Edler von Hauswehr, Generalmajor der Reserve
- Johann Edler von Horrak, Fieldmarschalleutnant
- Emanuel Jurauch, Hauptmann der Reserve
- Archduke Josef Karl Ludwig, General der Kavallerie
- Ferdinand von Khuepach zu Ried, Zimmerlehen und Haslbürg, Oberstleutnant der Reserve
- Albin Edler von Kieslinger, Oberst
- Wilhelm Freiherr von Klobucar, General der Kavallerie
- Guido Freiherr von Kober, General der Infanterie der Reserve
- Johann Freiherr Koblitz von Willmburg, Fieldzeugmeister der Reserve
- Gustav Freiherr von König, Fieldzeugmeister der Reserve
- Karl Kozelli, Oberst der Reserve
- Edmund Freiherr von Krieghammer, General der Infanterie
- Rudolf Freiherr von Merkl, Fieldzeugmeister der Reserve
- Eduard Edler von Metzger, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Hugo Milde von Helfenstein, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Johann Minkusz Edler von Schonfeld, Major der Reserve
- Rudolf Graf Montecuccoli, Admiral
- Maximilian Graf Orsini und Rosenberg, General der Kavallerie der Reserve
- Eduard Graf Paar, General der Kavallerie
- Heinrich Pelican, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Eugen Freiherr Piret de Bihain, General der Kavallerie
- Maximilian Freiherr von Pitner, Admiral
- Franz Pradwdik Edler von Mahrau, Generalmajor
- Archduke Rainer, Fieldzeugmeister
- Wilhelm Freiherr von Reinlander, Fieldzeugmeister
- Julius von Ripper, Admiral
- Leopold Rollinger von Rollegg, Fieldzeugmeister
- Valentine Rupert, Lieutenant Oberst der Reserve
- Anton Sabranski von Thalbruck, Generalmajor der Reserve





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )



**Recipients of the Officers Service Cross First Class**

- Philipp Prinz von Sachsen-Coberg und Gotha Herzog zu Sachsen, General der Kavallerie on leave
- Scipio Conte Scapinelli, Generalmajor der Reserve
- Joseph Ritter Schilhawsky von Bahnbruck, Fieldmarschalleutnant
- Moriz Schmidt, Fieldzeugmeister
- Alois Edler von Schuschnigg, Generalmajor der Reserve
- Ludwig Ritter von Schwitzer von Bayersheim, General der Infanterie
- Joseph Sommer, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve
- Hermann Freiherr von Spaun, Admiral
- Peter Edler von Ther, Fieldmarschalleutnant
- Alexander Graf Uxkull-Gyllenband, General der Kavallerie
- Alois Viditz Edler von Auenstein, Generalmajor der Reserve
- Ernst Freiherr von Vivenot, Fieldmarschalleutnant
- Johann Freiherr von Waldstätten, Fieldzeugmeister
- Zeno Graf Weksersheimb, Fieldzeugmeister
- Franz Freiherr von Wimpffen, Fieldzeugmeister
- August Prinz zu Winisch-Graetz, Fieldmarschalleutnant
- Joseph Prinz zu Winisch-Graetz, General der Kavallerie
- Eduard Ritter von Zambaur, Fieldmarschalleutnant der Reserve





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(*Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere* )



**Feldzeugmeister Wilhelm Franz Karl of Austria-Teschen wearing the 50 Year Officer Service Cross**





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )



**Fieldzeugmeister Beck-Rzikowsky Wearing the 50 Year Officer Service Cross with Diamonds**







**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



**Date Issued:** March 12, 1890 - 1918

**Reason Issued:** From 1890 until 1913 to reward officers of the Austrian army and navy who had served forty years of active service in a faithful and honorable manner. After August 7, 1913 the cross was given to reward officers of the Austrian army and navy who had served thirty-five years of active service in a faithful and honorable manner

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- Only the highest grade of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- In the early crosses the eagles are more gothic in design, they have a more lightly feathered body and longer necks and tails.
- Crosses with mother of pearl or tortious shell reverse were privately made. The mother of pearl or tortious shell prevented the brass of the cross from discoloring the uniform (Austrian full dress for many officers was white)
- In 1890 it was determined to reverse the title of the military service crosses. Thus the crosses for the most years served became the first class and the other classes were arrayed below it in descending order based on years served.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.
- Officers who served more than forty years received a pension equal to the salary they drew upon retirement.
- As of April 21, 1913 engineers and artillery engineers were eligible for this award; After 19 November 1917, military doctors were entitled to this award.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a loop or stylized wedge shaped eye at the top to which is attached an oval ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a finely granulated surface and raised edges. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm raised smooth edge. The inner portion of the raised edge is of black enamel, which follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a gilt double-headed imperial eagle. Above the eagle heads is the imperial crown. In the right talon is a sword and in the left an orb. On the breast of the eagle is the Habsburg coat of arms. Below the coat of arms is the chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece.







## Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1890-1918 (Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have decorative element, a mother of pearl finish or an inscription if it is a presentation cross.

**Weight:** 13.7 grams

**Size:** 34-35 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:**

- Gilded bronze with an attached gilt eagle
- Gilded bronze with an attached gilt eagle and a mother of pearl reverse
- A zinc cross with a bronze center eagle

**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Decoration: As described above
- Type II Decoration: A zinc cross with a bronze center eagle
- Type I Obverse: As described above
- Type II Obverse: As described above except that it has a roman style eagle with the individual eagle heads on the obverse of the cross crowned
- Type I Reverse: As described above with the following exception: it has a rivet in the center for attaching the eagle to the cross

Type I Reverse



Type II Reverse



Type III Reverse



Images courtesy of Dorotheum





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



Type V Reverse



Type VI Reverse



Type VII Reverse

**Variations (continued):**

Images courtesy of Dorotheum

- Type II Reverse: As described above with the following exception: The reverse is sheathed in mother of pearl
- Type III Reverse: As described above with the following exception: The reverse is sheathed in mother of pearl with an inscription
- Type IV Reverse: The reverse is plain metal
- Type V Reverse: The reverse is plain metal with an inscribed dedication
- Type VI Reverse: The reverse is decorated with a fine inscribed line which follows the contours of the arms of the cross
- Type VII Reverse: The reverse is decorated with a fine inscribed line which follows the contours of the arms and the center medallion of the cross
- Type VIII Reverse: The reverse of the arms are decorated with a beaded line that follows the contour of the medal and has a finely pebbled area within the beaded design. The reverse center medallion is round and plain.
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: A stylized wedge shaped eye
- Type I Eagle: As described above
- Type II Eagle: A roman style eagle with the individual eagle heads on the obverse of the cross crowned

**Designer:** After 1908 Josef Zimmler

**Manufacturer:**

- Hauptmünzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)
- Josef Zimmler of Vienna

**Number Issued:** Between 1890 and 1918 approximately 6,200 second class crosses in their various incarnations were awarded.

**Order of Precedence:** Number 61 after the Forty Year Faithful Service Medal and before the Officers Military Service Decoration, Third Class



Type IV Reverse



Type VIII Reverse

Images courtesy of Dorotheum





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)

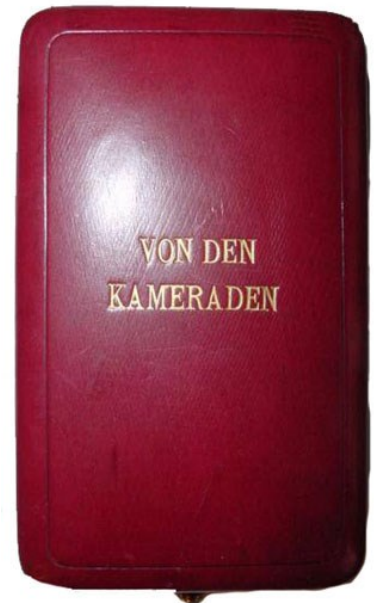
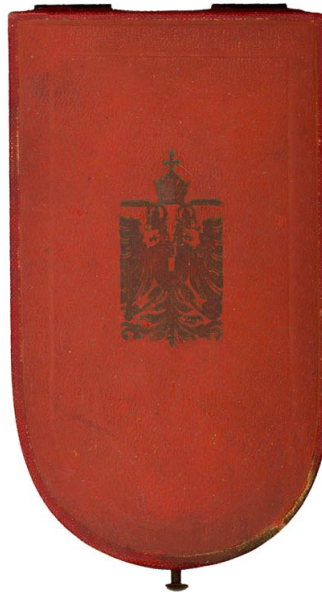


Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Case:**

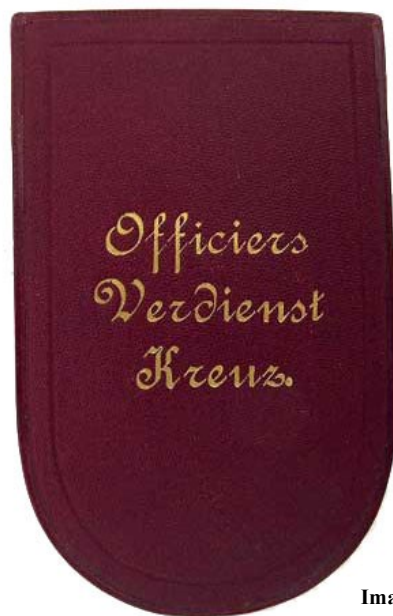
- Case Type I: A red cloth case with the Habsburg coat of arms in gold on the lid. The interior is black plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white silk and often has the maker's logo in gilt.
- Case Type II: A red cloth case with the older version of the Habsburg coat of arms in gold on the lid. The interior is black plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white silk and often has the maker's logo in gilt.
- Case Type III: A red leather case with the inscription **VON DEM KAMERADEN** on lid and a dark blue plush interior. (This is a privately made presentation case)
- Case Type IV: Decorative cases for engraved awards have been noted. They have been in the regiment's colors with fancy engraving and other ornamentation.
- Case Type V: A maroon simulated leather case with the words *Officiers Verdienst Kruz* in gilt script on the lid. The inner portion of the case is black fitted plush.
- Case Type VI: Fitted cases for multiple decorations have also been seen in which one of the decorations is a service cross.







**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



Images courtesy of Dorotheum



**Ribbon:** Yellow-gold with an 8.5 mm black stripe 3 mm from each edge.

- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration sometimes issued with small attachments to indicate specific awards was introduced in October 27, 1917.

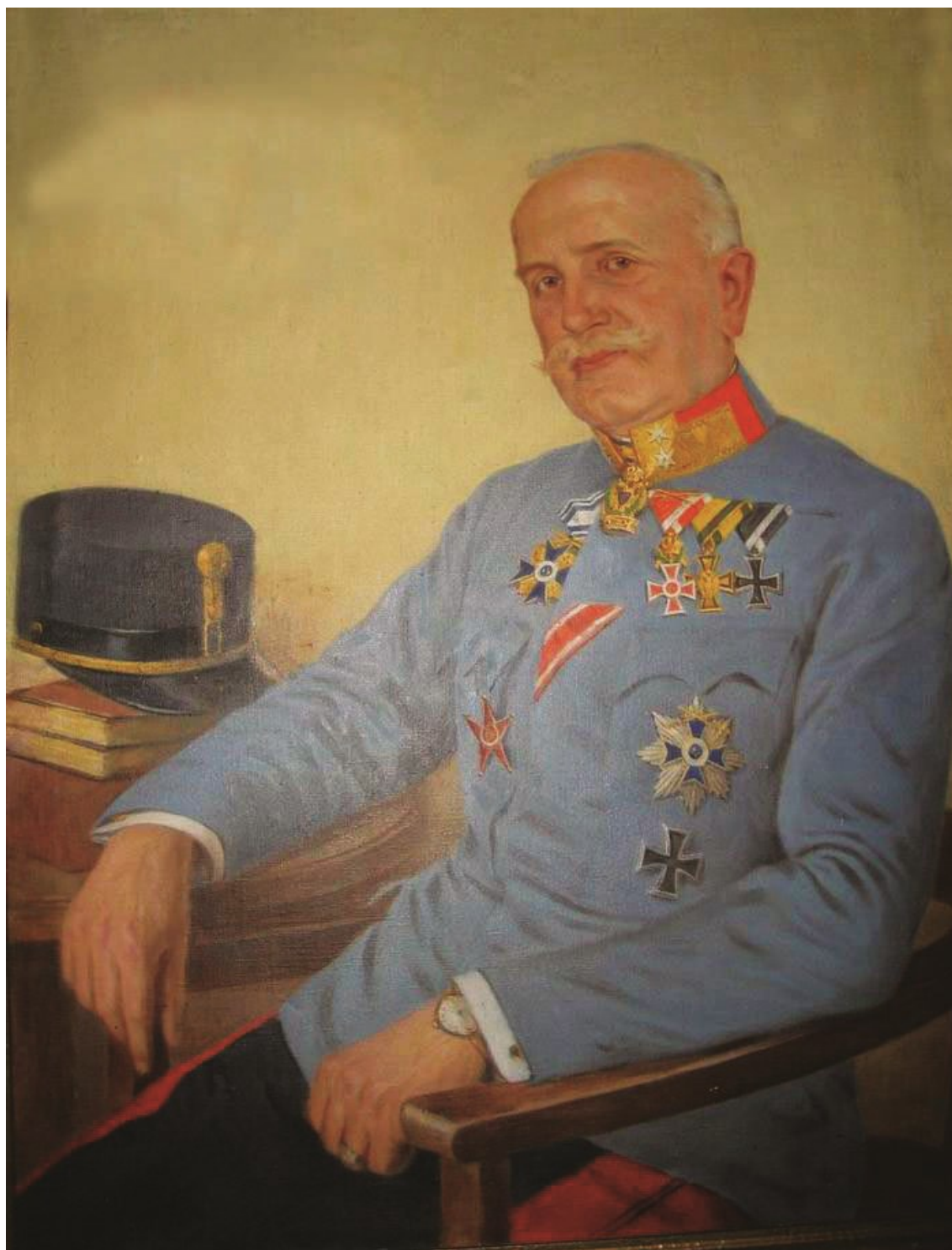
**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Miniatures of this decoration exist.





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Second Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Offiziere)



**Fieldmarschall-Leutnant Viktor Severus Edler von Laubenfeld und Ciminago**  
Wearing the Officer Military Service Cross second class





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890**  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



**Date Issued:** May 18, 1849 - 1918

**Reason Issued:** Founded by Franz Joseph on September 19, 1849 to reward officers of the Austrian army and navy who had served twenty five years of active service in a faithful and honorable manner.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- This cross was designated the Officers Service Cross, first class from 1849 until 1890. In 1890 when the new design of the 50 year service cross was introduced and the 40 year service cross was established this cross was designated as the Officers Service Cross, third Class. Regardless of its designation it was always given for 25 years' service
- In the early crosses the eagles are more gothic in design, they have a more lightly feathered body and longer necks and tails.
- The newer crosses have eagles in the renaissance (Roman) pattern with detailed feathers.
- The older crosses have a small round eye parallel to the body of the cross. Through this eye passes an elongated oval ring to suspend the cross to the ribbon. The later crosses have a ball shaped eye with a plain round ring passing through it.
- Only the highest grade of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- The cross had to be returned when a longer service cross was received or upon the death of the recipient
- Crosses with mother of pearl or tortoise shell reverse were privately made. The mother of pearl or tortoise shell prevented the brass of the cross from discoloring the uniform (Austrian full dress for many officers was white)
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.
  - This cross was awarded in diamonds to Archduke Frederick Von Habsburg
  - Military officials, doctors and accounting officers were not eligible for this award prior to 1913
  - As of April 21, 1913 Engineers and artillery engineers were eligible for this award; After 19 November 1917, military doctors were entitled to this award.







**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890**  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



Type I Cross, Image from Pinterest



Type II Cross, Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Hallmarks:** The mark of Friedrich Rotha

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a loop shaped eye at the top to which is attached an oval ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 20 mm tall and 10 mm wide silver double-headed imperial eagle. Above the eagle heads is the imperial crown. In the right talon is a sword and in the left an orb. On the breast of the eagle is the Habsburg coat of arms. Below the coat of arms is the chain of the Order of the Golden Fleece.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse eagle, a screw back attachment for attaching the eagle, a mother of pearl, tortoise shell or an enamel finish, or an inscription from those who presented it. Thus there are a number of variations of the reverse. Major types are depicted below.

**Weight:** 12.5 grams

**Size:** 33-35 mm in diameter.

**Type of Material:**

- Gilded bronze or brass with an attached silver eagle.
- Gilded bronze or brass with an attached silver eagle and a mother of pearl reverse
- Gilded bronze or brass with an attached silver eagle and a white enameled reverse

**Variations:**

- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type II Cross: As described above except in war metal
- Type I Obverse (issued from 1849-1867): As described above
- Type II Obverse (issued from 1867-1890): As described except the eagle is in the renaissance (Roman) style and the individual eagle heads on the obverse of the cross are crowned
- Type I Reverse: A plain metal reverse with a rivet in the center to attach the obverse eagle
- Type II Reverse: A plain metal reverse
  - Type III Reverse: A mother of pearl reverse



Type I Reverse





type II Cross, Image courtesy of Dorotheum  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890**  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918**  
 (Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
 (Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)

Type II Reverse



Type III Reverse



**Reverse (continued):**

Image courtesy of Dorotheum

- Type IV Reverse: A mother of pearl reverse with a rivet hole in the center for attaching the eagle to the obverse of the cross
- Type V Reverse: A mother of pearl reverse with a round silver center medallion on which is a dedication
- Type VI Reverse: A metal reverse with a beaded line following the contour of the arms of the cross within which is a fine pebbled pattern. In the center of the cross round silver center medallion on which is a dedication
- Type VII Reverse: A plain metal reverse with a dedication
- Type VIII Reverse: A mother of pearl reverse with a dedication
- Type IX Reverse: A white enameled reverse with metal edges
- Type X Reverse: A cross with white enameled reverse arms with metal edges and a round bronze center medallion on which is a dedication
- Type XI Reverse: A metal reverse with a beaded line following the contour of the arms of the cross within which is a fine pebbled pattern. In the center of the cross round bronze center medallion on which is a dedication (see next page)
- Type XII Reverse: A cross with black enamel reverse with metal edges and a round center medallion on which is a dedication (see next page)



Type IV Reverse



Type V Reverse



Type VI Reverse



Images courtesy of Dorotheum





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890**  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



Type VII Reverse



Type VIII Reverse



Type IX Reverse

Images courtesy of Dorotheum



Type X Reverse

**Variations (Continued):**

- Type IV Reverse. A mother of pearl reverse with a rivet hole in the center for attaching the eagle to the obverse of the cross
- Type V Reverse: A mother of pearl reverse with a round silver center medallion on which is a dedication
- Type VI Reverse: A metal reverse with a beaded line following the contour of the arms of the cross within which is a fine pebbled pattern. In the center of the cross round silver center medallion on which is a dedication
- Type VII Reverse: A plain metal reverse with a dedication
- Type VIII Reverse: A mother of pearl reverse with a dedication
- Type IX Reverse: A white enameled reverse with metal edges
- Type X Reverse: A cross with white enameled reverse arms with metal edges and a round bronze center medallion on which is a dedication





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890**  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



**Variations (continued)**

- Type XI Reverse: A metal reverse with a beaded line following the contour of the arms of the cross within which is a fine pebbled pattern. In the center of the cross round bronze center medallion on which is a dedication
- Type XII Reverse: A cross with black enamel reverse with metal edges and a round center medallion on which is a dedication
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: As described above except the suspender is a ball eye decorated with two grooves
- Type III Suspension: As described above except with a ball shaped eye
- Type I Eagle: As described above
- Type II Eagle: Has a Roman style eagle with the individual eagle heads on the obverse of the cross crowned



Type XI Reverse



Type XII Reverse

Image courtesy of Dorotheum







**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890**  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Designer:** After 1908 Josef Zimblér

**Manufacturer:**

- Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)
- Josef Zimblér
- Vinc Mayer and Sons
- Carl Freidrich Rothe

**Number Issued:**

- Officers Service Cross First Class = Unknown
- Officers Service Cross Third Class 1890-1918 = 13,500
- Officers Service Cross with diamonds = 1 known

**Order of Precedence:** Number 62 after the Officers Military Service Decoration, second class and before the Franz Joseph Cross, third class

**Case:** There are a wide variety of cases for this award some commonly used examples are illustrated here

- Case Type I: A red cloth covered case with the Habsburg coat of arms in gold on the lid. The interior is black plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white silk and often has the maker's logo in gilt. Cases of this type were known to be made by Josef Zimblér and Vinc Mayer and Sons
- Case Type II: A red cloth case with the Habsburg coat of arms in gold on the lid. The interior is black plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white silk and often has the maker's logo in gilt.

Image courtesy of Dorotheum





Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890  
Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



**Case continued:**

Images courtesy of Dorotheum

- Case Type III: Decorative cases for engraved awards have been noted. They have been in the regiment's colors with fancy engraving and other ornamentation.
- Case Type IV: A red leather case with the inscription **VON DEM KAMERADEN** on lid and a dark blue plush interior. This is a privately produced presentation case.
- Case Type V: A maroon leather case with a gilt inscription on the lid and a black plush and fitted while the inner part of the lid is white silk and often has the maker's logo in gilt.
- Fitted cases for multiple decorations have also been seen in which one of the decorations is a service cross.

**Ribbon:** Originally 43 mm wide, lemon yellow with two 9.5 mm wide black side strips at a 1.5 mm distance from the edges: later 38 mm wide, golden yellow with 10 mm wide black side strips at a 3 mm distance from the edges.



- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration sometimes issued with small attachments to indicate specific awards was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Miniatures of this decoration exist.

- Some miniatures are 18 by 16 mm and 2.4 grams







Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890  
Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



1914 Officer Service Cross III Class Award Document issued to an Austrian Naval Officer





**Officer's Military Service Decoration, First Class, 1849-1890**  
**Officer's Military Service Decoration, Third Class, 1890-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Offiziere )  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Offiziere)



**An Austrian Generalmajor wearing the Officers Service Cross III Class**





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
First Class, 1849-1867**

(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Date Issued:** May 18, 1849 - May 18, 1867

**Reason Issued:** Founded by Franz Joseph on September 19, 1849 to reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served eight years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- In 1849 the cross for 16 years' service was designated as the second class and the cross for 8 years' service was designated as the first class. Thus the higher the class the greater the number of years served
- The older crosses have a small round eye parallel to the body of the cross. Through this eye passes an elongated oval ring to suspend the cross to the ribbon. The later crosses have a ball shaped eye with a plain round ring passing through it.
- Only the highest class of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.
- Veterans eight year commemoration crosses are often mistaken for service crosses. Veteran's crosses usually have a silver center medallion with the date as opposed to the bronze center medallion for the service cross.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a loop eye at the top to which is attached an oval ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 16 mm disk of the same metal as the cross. On this disk is the Roman Numeral VIII.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum







**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops**  
**First Class, 1849-1867**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk or a screw back attachment for attaching the obverse disk.

**Weight:** 7.7 grams

**Size:** 33-34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze or brass

**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type III Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a disk shaped nut for attaching the obverse disk
- Type IV Reverse: As described above except with a white metal reverse
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: As described above except the suspender is a ball eye decorated with two grooves
- Type III Suspension: As described above except with a ball shaped eye

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Between 1890 and 1918 approximately 6,200 second class and 13, 500 third class crosses in their various incarnations were awarded.

**Case:** Unknown

- **Ribbon:** Lemon yellow with an 10 mm black stripe 3 mm from each edge.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Known to exist







**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops**  
**Second Class, 1849-1867**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Date Issued:** May 18, 1849 - May 18, 1867

**Reason Issued:** Founded by Franz Joseph on September 19, 1849 to reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served sixteen years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- From 1849 to 1867 the cross for 16 years' service was designated as the second class and the cross for 8 years' service was designated as the first class. From 1867 to 1890 the cross for 16 years' service was designated as the second class and the cross for 12 years' service was designated as the first class. Thus the higher the class the greater the number of years served.
- The older crosses have a small round eye parallel to the body of the cross. Through this eye passes an elongated oval ring to suspend the cross to the ribbon. The later crosses have a ball shaped eye with a plain round ring passing through it.
- Only the highest class of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a loop eye at the top to which is attached an oval ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 17 mm silver disk. Around the edge of the disk is an oak wreath while in the center is the Roman Numeral XVI.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk or a screw back attachment for attaching the disk.

**Weight:** 14.4 grams





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Second Class, 1849-1867**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Size:** 33-34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze or brass and silver

**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Cross: as described above
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type III Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a disk shaped nut for attaching the obverse disk
- Type IV Reverse: As described above except with a white metal reverse
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: As described above except the suspender is a ball shaped eye decorated with two grooves
- Type III Suspension: As described above except with a ball shaped eye

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Lemon yellow with a 10 mm black stripe 3 mm from each edge.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Known to exist





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
First Class, 1867-1890**

**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Second Class, 1890-1913**

(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



Type I as issued from 1867 to 1869

Type II as issued from 1869 to 1913

**Date Issued:** May 18, 1867 - August 5, 1913

**Reason Issued:** To reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served twelve years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- This cross was designated the Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross, first class from 1867 until 1890. On March 12, 1890 when the new standards for issuing service crosses were instituted this cross was designated as the Non Commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross, second class. Regardless of its designation it was always given for 12 years' service.
- The older crosses have a small round eye parallel to the body of the cross. Through this eye passes an elongated oval ring to suspend the cross to the ribbon. The later crosses have a ball shaped eye with a plain round ring passing through it.
- Only the highest class of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a loop eye at the top (later versions have a ball shaped eye) to which is attached an oval ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.







**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
First Class, 1867-1890**

**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Second Class, 1890-1913**

(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 17 mm silver disk surrounded by an oak leaf wreath. On this disk is the Roman Numeral XII.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk or a screw back attachment for attaching the disk.

**Weight:** 12 grams

**Size:** 34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze or brass and in some cases a silver center medallion

**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Obverse as issued from 1867-1869: as described above
- Type II Obverse as issued from 1869-1890: The center medallion on this cross has a raised rim in the same metal as the cross and the Roman Numeral XII
- Type III Obverse (1890-1913): The same as Type II except the center disk is in silver.
- Type IV Obverse: The same as Type I except the center disk is in the same metal as the cross
- Type I Reverse: as described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type III Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a disk shaped nut for attaching the obverse disk
- Type IV Reverse: As described above except with a white metal reverse
- Type V Reverse: The reverse of the arms are decorated with a beaded line that follows the contour of the medal and has a finely pebbled area within the beaded design. The reverse center medallion is round and plain.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
First Class, 1867-1890**

**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Second Class, 1890-1913**

(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Variations continued:**

- Type I Suspension: as described above
- Type II Suspension (Later issue): As described above except the suspender is a ball eye decorated with two grooves
- Type III Suspension (Later issue): As described above except with a ball shaped eye

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Lemon-yellow with a 9 mm black stripe 1.5 mm from each edge.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Miniatures are known to exist





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops**  
**Second Class, 1867-1869**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Date Issued:** May 18, 1867 - August 5, 1869

**Reason Issued:** To reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served eighteen years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- Only the highest class of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.
- This cross was only issued for two years.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a ball eye at the top to which is attached a ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 16 mm silver disk. The disk has an oak leaf wreath around its edge and the Roman Numeral XVIII in its center.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk or a screw back attachment for attaching the disk.

**Weight:** 11.8 grams

**Size:** 34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze or brass and silver



Image from Pinterest







**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops**  
**Second Class, 1867-1869**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a disk shaped nut for attaching the obverse disk
- Type III Reverse: As described above except with a white metal reverse

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Lemon-yellow with a 9 mm black stripe 1.5 mm from each edge.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Unknown.





**Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross Third Class, 1867-1869**  
**Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross Second Class, 1869-1890**  
**Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops First Class, 1890-1913**  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Date Issued:** May 18, 1867 - August 5, 1913

**Reason Issued:** To reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served twenty-four years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- This cross was designated the Non-commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross, third class from 1867-1869. It was then designated the Non-commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross, second class from 1869 until 1890. On March 12, 1890 when the new standards for issuing service crosses were instituted this cross was then designated as the Non Commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross, first Class. Regardless of its designation it was always given for 24 years' service
- The older crosses have a Loop shaped eye vertical to the body of the cross. Through this eye passes a ring to suspend the cross to the ribbon. The later crosses have a ball shaped eye with a plain round ring passing through it.
- Only the highest grade of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a loop eye at the top to which is attached a ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 16 mm disk of silver. Around the edge of the disk is an oak leaf wreath while in its center is the Roman Numeral XXIV.





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Third Class, 1867-1869**

**Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross Second Class, 1869-1890**

**Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops First Class, 1890-1913**

(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

**Type II Cross**



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk or a screw back attachment for attaching the disk.

**Weight:** 10.2 grams

**Size:** 34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze or brass and silver

**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type II Cross: As described except that the center medallion is of the same material as the cross. This version was issued from 1890 to 1913.
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type III Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a disk shaped nut for attaching the obverse disk
- Type IV Reverse: As described above except with a white metal reverse
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: As described above except the suspender is a stylized wedge shaped eye

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmünzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown

**Order of Precedence:** Number 65 after the Red Cross Service Honor Decoration, Second Class and before the Enlisted Military Service Decoration, Second Class







**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Third Class, 1867-1869**

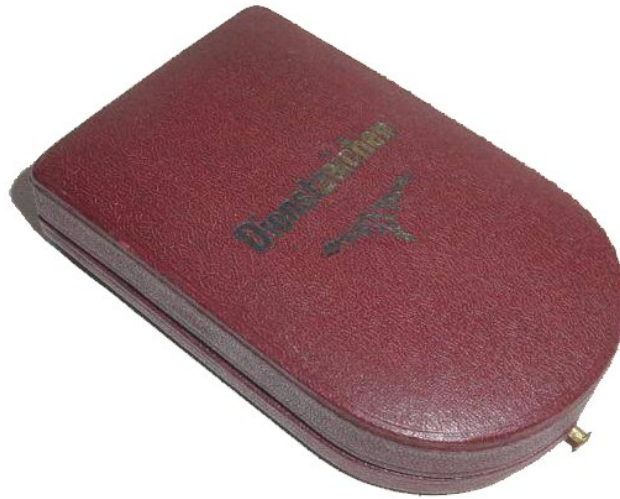
**Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops Service Cross Second Class, 1869-1890**

**Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops First Class, 1890-1913**

(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)

(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Case:** A maroon simulated leather case with a gold inscription **Dienstzeichen** (service insignia) and a decorative element. The inside of the lid is white silk and often has the maker's logo in gold. The inner liner of the bottom of the case is black velvet and is fitted.

**Ribbon:** Lemon-yellow with a 9 mm black stripe 1.5 mm from each edge.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Known to exist





## Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops First Class, 1913-1918

(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Date Issued:** August 7, 1913 - 1918

**Reason Issued:** To reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served twenty years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- Only the highest grade of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Crosses at the end of World War I were made of zinc with bronze centers
- Pensions and other benefits were granted to long service non-commissioned officers. Those with a minimum of twelve years' service had priority in state employment such as railway, customs and civil service.
- A gratuity was given for more than 12 years' service and a state pension for 18 years' service or more.
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a ball shaped eye at the top to which is attached a ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 16 mm disk of silver. Around the edge of the disk is an oak leaf wreath; while in its center is the Roman Numeral XX.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk.

**Weight:** 14.8 grams

**Size:** 34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze (Tombac), brass, silver and war metal



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
First Class, 1913-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen I Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type II Cross: A zinc cross with bronze center disk
- Type III Cross: A zinc cross
- Type IV Cross: As Type I except the center disk has a wreath in the same metal as the cross
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: As described above except with a thin flat wedge shaped eye
- Type III Suspension: As described above except with a round loop shaped eye

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown

**Order of Precedence:** Number 65 after the Red Cross Service Honor Decoration, Second Class and before the Enlisted Military Service Decoration, Second Class



**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Imperial golden-yellow with an 8.5 mm black stripe 3 mm from each edge.

- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration sometimes issued with small attachments to indicate specific awards was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Unknown.





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Second Class, 1913-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Date Issued:** August 7, 1913 - 1918

**Reason Issued:** To reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served ten years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- Only the highest class of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Crosses at the end of World War I were made of zinc with bronze centers
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a ball shaped eye at the top to which is attached a ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearled design, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 16 mm disk of the same material as the cross but with a white metal wash. Around the edge of the disk are two lines; while in its center is the Roman Numeral X.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk.

**Weight:** 12.8 grams

**Size:** 34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze or brass (Tombac)







**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Second Class, 1913-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen II Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type II Cross: A cross in war metal
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: As described above except with a thin flat wedge shaped eye
- Type III Suspension: As described above except with a round loop shaped eye

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown

**Order of Precedence:** Number 66 after the Enlisted Military Service Decoration, First Class and before the Enlisted Military Service Decoration, Third Class

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Imperial gold with an 8 mm black stripe 3 mm from each edge.

- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration sometimes issued with small attachments to indicate specific awards was introduced in October 27, 1917.



**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Unknown





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Third Class, 1913-1918**

(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



Images courtesy of Dorotheum

Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Date Issued:** 1911 - 1918

**Reason Issued:** To reward Non-commissioned officers and troops of the Austrian army and navy who had served six years of active service faithfully and honorably.

**Classes or Types:** This cross was issued in one type.

**Interesting Facts:**

- Only the highest grade of the service cross which had been earned could be worn.
- Crosses at the end of World War I were made of zinc with bronze centers
- Time in service was counted toward receipt of this award in two ways: piece time service was counted one year for one year, during a military campaign each year of service was counted as two years.

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A clawed cross in the Leopold style with arms that widen toward the ends. The cross has a ball shaped eye at the top to which is attached a ring for attaching the cross to the ribbon.

**Obverse:** A cross with a granulated surface. The edges of the arms of the cross are tapered. The arms of the cross have a 2 mm smooth edge. Inside the smooth edge is a pearly design, which also follows the contour of the cross. In the center of the cross is a 16 mm disk of the same material as the cross. Around the edge of the disk two lines, while in its center is the Roman Numeral VI.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross is usually plain. It may, however, have a rivet hole for attaching the obverse disk.

**Weight:** 9.6 grams

**Size:** 34 mm in diameter

**Type of Material:** Gilded bronze (Tombac), brass, zinc war metal





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Third Class, 1913-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Variations:** There are several variations of this decoration:

- Type I Cross: As described above
- Type II Cross: As described above except in war metal
- Type III Cross: As described above with a white metal center disk and a white center medallion
- Type I Reverse: As described above
- Type II Reverse: As described above except the reverse has a rivet for attaching the obverse disk
- Type I Suspension: As described above
- Type II Suspension: As described above except with a thin flat wedge shaped eye
- Type III Suspension: As described above except with a round loop shaped eye

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown

**Order of Precedence:** Number 67 after the Enlisted Military Service Decoration, Second Class and before the 1908 Landsturm Medal

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Imperial gold-yellow with an 8.5 mm black stripe 3 mm from each edge.



- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration sometimes issued with small attachments to indicate specific awards was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Known to exist





**Military Service Decoration for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops  
Third Class, 1913-1918**  
(Militärdienstzeichen III Klasse für Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften)



**Group of eleven awards including the Military Service Decoration for Non-commissioned Officers and troops, third class (1913-1918)**







## Wound Medal (Verwundtenmedaillen)



**Date Issued:** June 22, 1918 - 1922

**Reason Issued:** To reward members of the armed forces of all ranks who were wounded or became seriously ill while serving in the combat theater of operations.

**Classes or Types:** This medal was issued in six types.

- Wound Medal for invalids
- Wound Medal for one wound
- Wound Medal for two wounds
- Wound Medal for three wounds
- Wound Medal for four wounds
- Wound Medal for five or more wounds

**Interesting Facts:**

- Prior to the founding of this award, wounded soldiers wore a strip of red cloth on their caps to represent having been wounded
- This is the last award authorized by Emperor Karl.
- The number of wounds is signified by the number of red stripes on the center of the ribbon
- All wounds received in a single day were counted as one wound
- Five stripes was the maximum number possible on the ribbon
- Members of foreign legions and civil auxiliary units such as the Red Cross could receive this award
- The medal was not issued posthumously
- Recipients received a small document verifying the award when it was issued.
- Recipients of subsequent awards of the decoration received a ribbon with the new number of stripes
- The highest ranking general to receive this award was Generaloberst Schonburg-Hartenstein (Wound Medal with 2 strips)
- The highest ranking naval officer to receive this award was Admiral Horthy
- A very small number of medals were awarded before the war's end, but most of the medals and ribbons were produced, and the majority of the recipients received their medals, after the war directly from the manufacturers.





## Wound Medal (Verwundtenmedaillen)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

### Hallmarks:

- The word Bronze within a rectangle
- W & A (The Mark of Winter and Adler)
- The date 1918 (found on the same medals as those with the Winter and Adler mark)
- GW 18
- HMA 1918 HauptMunzAmpt (State Mint)

**Design:** A round medal with a raised rim and an attached square eye.

**Obverse:** The bust of Emperor Karl in profile facing the viewer's right. Above the bust is inscribed **CAROLVS**. Below the bust are two laurel branches crossed and tied at the stem. At the base of the bust is inscribed the designers name, **R. Placht**.

**Reverse:** The reverse of the medal is inscribed in three lines **LAESO/ MILITI/ .MCMXVIII**. (For Wounded Warriors 1918). This is a shortened version of the Latin inscription **LAESO ET INVICTO MILITI** (wounded and undefeated soldiers) taken from a speech on the occasion of the 1748 establishment of the Berlin Military Hospital.

**Weight:** 21.4 - 23.1 grams

**Size:** 37-38 mm in diameter and 3 mm thick.

### Type of Material:

- Zinc-alloy
- Bronze with a gray wash.

### Variations:

- Type I: as described above in Zinc. These medals were made by Winter and Adler
- Type II: as described above in bronze with a gray wash. These medals are as described but are finer made and are thinner being 2.5 mm thick and weighing 21.4 grams. His type medal is usually hallmarked on the rim near the suspension with the word **BRONZE** in a rectangle

**Designer:** Richard Placht

**Manufacturer:** There was more than one manufacturer. One of them was Winter and Adler

**Number Issued:** 2,200,000 persons were eligible to receive the award.

**Order of Precedence:** Number 79 after the 1892-93 Sea Voyage Medal and before the Red Cross Bronze Honor Medal

**Case:** Unknown





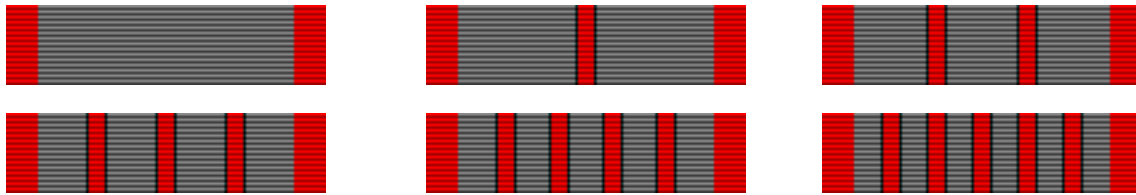
Wound Medal  
(Verwundtenmedaillen)







## Wound Medal (Verwundtenmedaillen)



**Ribbon:** The ribbon is 39 mm wide and comes in six variations. They are:

- For military invalids a 39 mm wide tri-fold ribbon of green-gray with 5 mm Carmen red (described in the statutes as blood red) edges
- For one wound a 39 mm wide tri-fold ribbon of green-gray with 5mm blood red edges and a 2 mm blood red stripe bordered in black in the center.
- For two wounds a 39 mm wide tri-fold ribbon of green-gray with 5 mm blood red edges and two 2 mm blood red stripes bordered in black in the center.
- For three wounds a 39 mm wide tri-fold ribbon of green-gray with 5 mm blood red edges and three 2 mm blood red stripes bordered in black in the center.
- For four wounds a 39 mm wide tri-fold ribbon of green-gray with 5 mm blood red edges and four 2 mm blood red stripes bordered in black in the center.
- For five or more wounds a 39 mm wide tri-fold ribbon of green-gray with 5 mm blood red edges and five 2 mm blood red stripes bordered in black in the center.
- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration sometimes issued with small attachments to indicate specific awards was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** There was no attachment authorized for this medal however it is occasionally seen with the following device attached to the ribbon: a 22 mm bronze or bronze gilt laurel wreath with the letters **HR** (Hadirokkant, War Invalid) in the center and the Hungarian crown at the top. This device indicates wounds sustained by members of the Hungarian forces during World War I or during the regency period. The attachment was intended to be worn on the Hungarian Fire Cross; however it is often found on the Wound Medal.

**Miniature:** Several types and sizes known to exist

- A 17 mm in diameter bronze medal with gray wash, weighing 2.2 grams







## Wound Medal (Verwundtenmedaillen)



**Enlisted group of eleven awards with the Wound Medal for one wound**

Image courtesy of Dorotheum



**Officers group of eight awards with the Wound Medal for two wounds**

Image courtesy of Dorotheum





Wound Medal  
(Verwundetenmedaillen)



K. u. k. Militärkommando Lemberg

Zu M. A. Nr. 113521 /P.R.

## Legitimation

über die Berechtigung zum Tragen der „Verwundetenmedaille“  
mit 2 Mittelstreifen am Bande

für Major v. Res Alfred Lachini  
des K. K. Inf. Reg. 76

Geburtsort: Wien Land: N. Öst.  
Heimatsgemeinde: Wien Land: N. Öst.

Lemberg, am 28 September 1918 schumer

*Stellvertreter des Militärkommandos*

Award Verification Document for the Wound Medal for two wounds







## Home Guard Twenty-Five Year Service Decoration (Landsturm 25 Dienstjahre Ehrenzeichen)



**Date Issued:** Emperor Franz Joseph I created this decoration on November 26, 1908

**Reason Issued:** This decoration was created on the occasion of the Sixty Year Jubilee of Emperor Franz Joseph I for award to those persons who served actively and with merit in an organization liable for militia service and subject to the national royal ministry for defense for a period of at least twenty-five years.

**Classes or Types:** There are two types of this award:

- Twenty Five Year Service Medal in bronze
- Twenty-Five Year Service Medal in gilt bronze for officers

**Interesting Facts:** A person receiving the 40 year medal had to return the 25 year medal

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A round medal with an attached square eye.

**Obverse:** Inside a raised rim is the inscription: **CONSTANTIAE ET PATRIAE AMORI** (For perseverance and love of country). Within the inscription is a laurel wreath over which is a vertical plaque on which is an imperial crown and below which is the letters **FJI** (Franz Joseph I).

**Reverse:** Inside a raised rim is an inscription on the upper half of the medal:

**QUINQUE LUSTRA** (Five, five years (service segments) thus Twenty-five years. At the bottom of the medal are two laurel branches crossed at the bottom. Inside of the inscription and wreath is an imperial eagle.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Home Guard Twenty-Five Years Service Decoration**  
(Landsturm 25 Dienstjahre Ehrenzeichen)



**Weight:** 21.4 grams

**Size:** 35 mm in diameter and 3 mm thick.

**Type of Material:** Dark chocolate bronze or gilt bronze.

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown.

**Order of Precedence:** Number 82 after the Home Guard Forty Year Long Service Medal and before the Life Saving and Fire Fighting Medal

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** A 38 mm tri-fold ribbon. The ribbon is one half golden yellow and one half black. The yellow portion of the ribbon has a one and a half mm black stripe and the black a comparable yellow stripe. The narrow stripes are one and a half mm from the ribbons edge.

- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None Known







**Home Guard Twenty-Five Years Service Decoration**  
(Landsturm 25 Dienstjahre Ehrenzeichen)



Das k. k. Ministerium für Landesverteidigung hat mit dem Erlasse  
vom *11. Februar 1918, N. 83, Abt. VIII a* Euer Wohlgeboren, das von  
Seiner kaiserlichen und königlichen Apostolischen Majestät

**Kaiser Franz Josef I.**

mit Allerhöchster Entschliebung vom 26. November 1908 allergnädigst  
gestiftete

**Ehrenzeichen für fünfundzwanzigjährige verdienstliche Mitgliedschaft  
bei einer landsturmpflichtigen Körperschaft**

zuerkannt.

Es gereicht mir zur besonderen Freude, Euer Wohlgeboren dieses  
sichtbare Zeichen Allerhöchster Anerkennung ausfolgen zu können.

An

Herrn

*Friedrich Brunn*

Wohlgeboren

in

*Linz*

**Home Guard 25 Year Decoration Certificate**





## Home Guard Forty Year Service Decoration (Landsturm 40 Dienstjahre Ehrenzeichen)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Date Issued:** Emperor Franz Joseph I created this medal on November 26, 1908

**Reason Issued:** This decoration was created on the occasion of the sixty year jubilee of Emperor Franz Joseph I for award to those persons who served actively and with merit in an organization liable for militia service and subject to the national royal ministry for defense for a period of at least forty years.

**Classes or Types:** There are two types of this award:

- Forty Year Service Medal in bronze
- Forty Year Service Medal in gilt bronze for officers

**Interesting Facts:** A person receiving the 40 year medal had to return the 25 year medal

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A round medal with an attached imperial eagle suspension.

**Obverse:** Inside a raised rim is the inscription: **CONSTANTIAE ET PATRIAE AMORI** (For perseverance and patriotism). Within the inscription is two laurel branches forming a wreath superimposed over which is the inscription **FJI** (Franz Joseph I) above which is an imperial crown. Attached to the upper edge of the medal is a 16 mm tall imperial eagle which serves as the suspension attaching the medal to the ribbon.

**Reverse:** Inside a raised rim is laurel wreath tied at the bottom with a ribbon. Inside the wreath is a horizontal plaque on which is the inscription: **OCTO LUSTRA** (Eight, five year periods, thus forty years). Attached to the upper edge of the medal is an imperial eagle with a ring near its lower edge which serves as the suspension attaching the medal to the ribbon.

**Weight:** 21.7 grams

**Size:** 35 mm in width, 51 mm in height including the 16 mm eagle suspender and it is 3 mm thick.

**Type of Material:** Dark chocolate bronze or gilt bronze.

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** Unknown.





## Home Guard Forty Years Service Decoration (Landsturm 40 Dienstjahre Ehrenzeichen)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Order of Precedence:** Number 81 after the Red Cross Bronze Honor Medal and before the Home Guard Twenty Five Year Long Service Medal

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** A 38-40 mm tri-fold ribbon. The ribbon is one half golden yellow and one half black. The yellow portion of the ribbon has a one and a half mm black stripe and the black a comparable yellow stripe. The narrow stripes are one and a half mm from the ribbons edge.

- A small rectangular ribbon for this decoration was introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** Examples exist







Home Guard Forty Years Service Decoration  
(Landsturm 40 Dienstjahre Ehrenzeichen)



Home Guard 40 Year Decoration certificate







**Home Guard Forty Years Service Decoration**  
(Landsturm 40 Dienstjahre Ehrenzeichen)



**A Veteran Wearing the Home Guard 40 Year Decoration**





## Civil Merit Medal (Zivil-Verdienstmedaille)

Images courtesy of Dorothet



**Date Issued:** Emperor Karl created this medal on April 30, 1918

**Reason Issued:** To recognize extraordinary service in time of war or outstanding service in peace time by civil servants of all ranks or other civilians in support of the empire or the emperor.

**Classes or Types:** There are two classes of this award:

- Gold Civil Merit Medal
- Silver Civil Merit Medal

**Interesting Facts:**

- These medals could be awarded retroactively

**Hallmarks:** None known

**Design:** A round medal with an attached wedge shaped suspension eye.

**Obverse:** The image of Emperor Karl in a Field Marshal's uniform with decorations facing to the viewers left. Surrounding the image is the inscription: **CAROLVS D G IMP AVST RX BOH ETC ET H N IV APOST HVNG.** Translation: Carl with the grace of God Emperor of Austria king of Bohemia etc. and Apostolic King of Hungary.

**Reverse:** A laurel bough on the viewers left and an oak bough on the right within which is the inscription **SIGNVM LAVDIS** (A token of esteem) in two lines.

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** 42 mm in diameter.

**Type of Material:** Silver gilt bronze and gold gilt bronze

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Rudolf Marschall

**Manufacturer:** Hauptmunzamt Wien (Imperial Mint, Vienna)

**Number Issued:** It is reported that five medals were awarded but the veracity of this report is in question.

**Order of Precedence:** It is questionable as to whether these medals ever actually occupied their intended place in the order of precedence however they were designated as follows:

- The Silver Civil Merit Medal ranked Number 35 after the Grand Military Merit Medal and before the Silver Military Merit Medal
  - The Bronze Civil Merit Medal ranked Number 37 after the Military Merit Medal and before the Gold Bravery Medal
- Case:** Unknown





**Civil Merit Medal**  
(Zivil-Verdienstmedaille)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Ribbon:** A 38-40 mm tri-fold ribbon. The ribbon is red with a white center stripe.

- A small rectangular ribbon conforming to the standards introduced in October 27, 1917.

**Attachments:** Multiple award bars were authorized for this medal

**Miniature:** None known to exist



**Geza Nagy Freiherr von Tobor-Ethe, Hofsekretar and Kabinetts-Konzipist, 1914 Hofrat and Kabinettssekretar of the Emperor, from 1905 King of Arms of the Order of St Stephen wearing the Civil Merit Medal**

